

Kinship Caregiver Newsletter

July 2017

Lummi Employment and Training Center

We Are Family Day Event May 7, 2017

Transforming lives

We had helped some of the Kinship families make it to the We Are Family Event held by

Children's Administration and the Seattle Mariners. These families were able to go to the event and get some great information, have some fun in

information, have some fun in the sun and attend the game where the Seattle Mariners beat the Texas Rangers with a score of 4-3.

The few families that I got an opportunity to chat with after the event stated that they had fun and were glad they got to hang out with the other families that are part of the kinship program.

Kimberly Nunnenkamp said, "I loved how the day made them feel so special to be part of a foster family. (When other the work makes it feel so hard."

Repeatedly with a few of the families that were seated together had given the same reviews of the children having fun and chanting together.

Hearing that our community kinship caregivers feel appreciated makes it feel like the program is doing what its intentions were when Lummi applied for this grant. The family members and community members that step up need to know that they are truly appreciated.

We will not always be able to send our families involved with our program to events like this one. This was a great way for us to kick off this new program though. We hope that we are able to help the kinship families in some form of assistance though. Most of our services will be in connecting you to services you or the

child may need.

If you are a kinship caregiver or know of anyone that is raising a grandchild, niece, nephew, distant relative that may need some assistance please refer them to Chastity Jeffries at the Lummi Employment and Training Center. We will see how we can best assist a family with meeting their needs to keep the child within the family or community.

Please feel free to send any pictures and

reviews of this event if you attended this event. You may drop off at our office, mail or email.



Picture provided by Kimberly Nunnenkamp



https://www.mlb.com/mariners

Summer Food Programs within Bellingham

Bellingham Public Schools will sponsor the Summer Food Program during summer 2017. Meals are available at no charge to any children 18 years of age and younger. Children do not need to be enrolled in summer school or attend one of our schools.

The locations and dates are as follows:

Bakerview Mobile Park

4015 Eliza Avenue Monday– Friday, June 19- August 18 Free lunch will be served from 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

Bellingham Sportsplex

1225 Civic Field Way Monday— Friday, June 19- August 18 Free lunch will be served from noon-12:30 pm

Cordata Elementary

4420 Aldrich Road
Monday— Friday,
June 19- August 18
Free breakfast will be served from
8:15am to 8:45 am
Free lunch will be served from
noon to 12:30 pm



Regency Park Apartments

2050 Fraser Street Monday— Friday, June 19- August 18 Free lunch will be served from noon— 12:30 pm

Roosevelt Elementary

2900 Yew Street
Monday— Friday,
June 19- August 18
Free breakfast will be served from
8:15 am— 8:45 am
Free lunch will be served from
noon— 12:30 pm

Shuksan Middle School

2717 Alderwood Avenue Monday– Friday, June 26– July 27 Free breakfast will be served from 8:15 am– 9:00 am Free lunch will be served from noon– 12:30 pm

Sterling Meadow Apartment

512 Sterling Drive Monday— Friday, June 19- August 18 Free lunch will be served from noon— 12:30 pm

Villa Santa Fe Apartment Complex

804 West Bakerview Road Monday— Friday, June 26-July 27 Free breakfast will be served from 8:45 am- 9:15 am Free lunch will be served from noon— 12:30 pm

For more information about the summer food program, please contact the District Office at 676-6400.

Here is some things you can do with the children

- The Burke Museum in Seattle is having Free First Thursdays on July 6, August 3 and September 7 of this year from 10 AM-8 PM.
- Teen Night every 1st and 3rd Friday of every month.
- Tribal Canoe Journey 2017
 Ends at Campbell River
 (central Vancouver Island)
 August 5-10, 2017

Powwows coming up in Washington

Seafair Seattle Powwow July 14-16, 2017

> Omak Stampede August 11-14, 2017

Stillaguamish Festival of the River & powwow August 13-14, 2017

> Chief Seattle Days August 18-20, 2017

> Makah Days August 25-27, 2017

Sauk-Suiattle Celebration of Generations Powwow August 26-28, 2017

Thank you A Tribute to Grandparents Raising Their Grandchildren

We celebrate you for all you've done
For caring for your granddaughter and grandson
You took on this awesome task that no one else could do,
Because no one loves and cares for your grandchild quite like you

By Rolanda Pyle

You had the courage to start all over again
Raising your grandchildren at an age when
You thought you might retire, travel and rest
But the children needed caregivers, and they needed the best.

Some came to you in pampers and most in tears

Needing nurturing and someone who cares.

Others came as toddlers, exploring the world on the run

You couldn't believe this happened— after you thought that you were done.

Still others came at school age, when they needed guidance and direction Science may have you baffled but you are great at giving affection.

And some of you have teenagers, oh my, what can I say.

Just keep reminding yourself that they would stay this way.

We know it has been easy—often quite a heavy load
And there have been many bumps along the road
You've been misunderstood, labeled and denied the services you need
Often criticized and not recognized for your labor or your good deed.

But we are here to honor you who have done so much
To change the lives of children with your special touch
We thank you grandparents.

And know you are appreciated for the rest of your life.

Thank you, grandparents.

June 2017 Page 3



Lummi Employment and Training Center

Lummi Employment and Training Center
Attn: Chastity Jeffries
2665 Kwina Road
Bellingham, WA 98226

Phone: 360-312-2072 Fax: 360-380-6973

E-mail: chastityj@lummi-nsn.gov

Soaring to new heights



A Kinship Caregiver's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray my sanity I will keep. For if some peace I do not find, I'm pretty sure I'll lose my mind.

I pray I find a little quite,
Far from the daily family riot.
Keep me from focusing on my child's drama
So that I might focus on their child's trauma.
May I lie back and not have to think
About what my grandchild is stiffing down the sink.

Or who they're with, or where they're at And what they're doing to the cat.

I pray for time all to myself (Did something just fall off a shelf?)

To cuddle in my nice, soft bed (Oh no, another goldfish—dead!)
Some silent moments for goodness sake (Did I just hear a window break?)

And that I Need no cook or clean (Well heck, I've got the right dream)
Yes now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray my wits about me keep,
But as I look around I know,
I must have lost them long ago!

~Author Unknown~



"Frogs are held in high esceem by many nations along the coast. They can live on land and in the water, teaching us to adapt to different situations."

Darrel Amos. Haida

